

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 IO-12 OIC-04

OMB-01 ACDA-19 AEC-11 RSR-01 /155 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9945

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 2931

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 2156

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: FRENCH PAPER ON FINAL MPT REPORT

HELSINKI FOR USDEL MPT

REF: USNATO 2075(NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY. SENIOR POLADS ON MAY 3 DISCUSSED FRENCH PAPER. NETHERLANDS CRITICIZED FRANCE FOR TABLING PORTIONS OF PAPER IN HELSINKI WITHOUT ADEQUATE CONSULTATION. US, NORWAY, CANADA AND TURKEY SAID THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT SECTION IN PAPER DEALING WITH INTERVAL BETWEEN MPT AND CSCE. SPC CHAIRMAN WILL FORWARD PAPER TO NAC WITH COVER NOTE DESCRIBING DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

1. ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE. FRENCH REP REPORTED THAT FRENCH DELEGATION IN HELSINKI PLANNED TO TABLE IN MPT TODAY FIRST TWO SECTIONS ("RECOMMENDATIONS" AND "ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE") OF PAPER ON FINAL MPT REPORT. HE EXPECTED FRENCH DELEGATION TO TABLE REMAINDER OF PAPER NEXT WEEK.

2. IN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO PROPOSED FRENCH REVISION OF
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PAPER TO INCLUDE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE SUMMIT- LEVEL THIRD STAGE (HELSINKI 1135), DUTCH REP ASKED IF ALLIES WOULD HAVE TIME TO CONSIDER IMPORTANT CHANGES IN PORTION OF PAPER DESCRIBING THIRD STAGE. FRENCH REP RESPONDED SHARPLY THAT THIS

SECTION SAID NOTHING NEW AND THAT ALLIES HAD ALREADY HAD ENOUGH TIME TO CONSIDER IT. HE BELIEVED ALLIES SHOULD DEVELOP FASTER REACTION TIME TO DOCUMENTS GOING TO HELSINKI. (COMMENT: DUTCH REP TOLD US PRIVATELY AFTER MEETING THAT, IN HIS VIEW THIS WAS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF INDEPENDENT FRENCH POSTURE IN HELSINKI AND OF FRENCH WILLINGNESS TO SIDESTEP NATO CONSULTATIONS. END COMMENT.)

3. AGENDA. CANADA NOTED THAT " AGENDA" SECTION OF FRENCH PAPER CONFUSING, SINCE THE PRECISE AGENDA WOULD VARY FROM STAGE TO STAGE. SECTION MIGHT BE RE- ENTITLED " SUBSTANTIVE TASKS." US REP AGREED THAT ALLIES HAD TO BE CAREFUL OF THIS TERMINOLOGY AND NOTED THAT US DELEGATION HAD JUST CIRCULATED PAPER ON PROPOSED " AGENDA" FOR FIRST MINISTERIAL (STATE 71121).

4. PARTICIPATION. US REP SUGGESTED THAT FRANCE AMEND SECOND PARAGRAPH OF " PARTICIPATION" SECTION (ALONG LINES PARA 5 C, USNATO 2094) BEFORE TABLING, TO MAKE CLEAR THAT ALLIES WERE NOT OPENING DOOR TO ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS. SEVERAL REPS SECONDED SUGGESTION.

5. DATE. US, CANADA, NORWAY AND TURKEY CONSIDERED TOO PRECISE AND INFLEXIBLE FRENCH PAPER'S FOUR- WEEK TIME PERIOD BETWEEN CONFIRMATION OF MPT REPORT AND CSCE MINISTERIAL. NORWEGIAN REP ARGUED THAT THIS APPROACH WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO SELL IN HELSINKI AND WOULD ONLY CONVINCE NEUTRALS AND EE'S THAT ALLIES WERE TRYING TO DELAY CSCE. US REP SUGGESTED THAT FRANCE MIGHT LEAVE BLANK SPACE (AFTER " S' OUVRIRA") WHEN TABLING PAPER AND THAT THOSE ALLIES WHO WISHED TO COULD EXPLAIN ORALLY AT MPT THEIR VIEWS TOWARDS USE OF TIME BETWEEN END OF MPT AND OPENING CSCE MINISTERIAL.

6. DISPOSITION OF PAPER. COMMITTEE AGREED WITH CHAIRMAN' S SUGGESTION THAT SPC SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO RE- FORMULATE FRENCH PAPER, BUT FORWARD IT TO NAC WITH HIS COVER NOTE SUMMARIZING THE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO02156
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730558/abqcdzmc.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USNATO 2075(NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE: FRENCH PAPER ON FINAL MPT REPORT
TAGS: PFOR
To: STATE
HELSINKI INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005